

## U.S. Embassy Bahrain

### Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens – August 4, 2013

The Department of State has instructed certain U.S. Embassies and Consulates to close for days not previously scheduled as holidays in the period **Monday, August 4 through Saturday, August 10**. These Embassies and Consulates will continue to provide *emergency* American citizen services. **Accordingly, the U.S. Embassy in Manama, Bahrain will be closed from August 4 to August 10**. As previously noted, the Department had been apprised of information that, out of an abundance of caution and care for our employees and others who may be visiting our installations, indicates we should institute these precautionary steps. The current list of Temporary Post Closures and the text of the World Wide Travel Alert can be found at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

All U.S. citizen services appointments and visa appointments have been cancelled and will need to be rescheduled on an individual basis. For further information, please contact the Consular Section at [ManamaConsular@state.gov](mailto:ManamaConsular@state.gov).

The Department, when conditions warrant, takes steps like this to balance our continued operations with security and safety. However, beyond this announcement we do not discuss specific threat information, security considerations or measures, or other steps we may be taking.

For further information, we refer you to the Worldwide Caution put out by the Department dated February 19, 2013, repeated below:

[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/pa/pa\\_4787.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_4787.html).

As a matter of general practice, U.S. citizens should avoid areas where large gatherings may occur. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. *You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.*

*Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance, take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.*

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Bahrain enroll in the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) where the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Country Specific Information](#), [Travel Warnings](#), and [Travel Alerts](#) can be found. Follow us on [Twitter](#)

and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. Download our free Smart Traveler app, available through [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.

Up to date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the United States and Canada, or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The Embassy's website, <http://bahrain.usembassy.gov>, includes travel information, the Worldwide Caution, and Demonstration Notices. The Consular Section can be reached at [ManamaConsular@state.gov](mailto:ManamaConsular@state.gov).